

TOWN MEETING COORDINATING COMMITTEE

TMCC@amherstma.gov

Town Meeting Coordinating Committee: H. Oldham Brooks, Nancy Gordon (Secretary), Hilda Greenbaum, Margaret R. Roberts, Irving P. Rothberg (Chair), Marcie Sclove (Vice Chair), Otto Stein

REPORT TO ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF 2005

COMMITTEE STATUS. The TMCC has been meeting almost weekly since Town Meeting established and elected it at the Annual Meeting of 2004.

In accordance with the Committee's Rules and Regulations adopted by Town Meeting, Town Meeting members Hilda Greenbaum and Margaret R. Roberts were appointed by the Town Moderator to fill for one year the two-year terms of two Committee members who have resigned.

Unfunded when created, Committee has requested an operating budget and staff support.

INFORMATION/EDUCATION AREA. The Committee

- has continued its e-mail subscription service, with a current subscription of 70 Town Meeting members;
- has with the cooperation of the Town's Information Technology Department posted relevant information and documents on the Town website;
- has joined the League of Women Voters in organizing the semi-annual Orientation/Warrant Review meetings;
- continues organizing and sponsoring neighborhood discussion forums (Precinct Forums) of warrant articles;
- sponsored a lecture by Professor Frank Bryan of the University of Vermont on "Modernism and Town Meeting: Problems and Prospect," on March 8th, 2005, that was covered by ACTV and rebroadcast several times.

COMMITTEE INITIATIVES. The Committee

- continues its investigation of ways to implement accountable voting;
- continues its policy to encourage the broadest possible participation in Town Meeting;
- has contacted the Superintendent of Amherst Schools about a program to make students familiar with Town government;
- has cooperated with the Town Meeting Family and Childcare Study Committee regarding the draft of Warrant Article 24, Town Meeting Childcare.

OTHER SERVICE. The Committee

- has welcomed the comments voiced by representatives from Town Meeting and the community.